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3 dense ovate heads, about half an inch long; spikelets lanceolate, 4 to 5-flowered; glumes lanceolate, acute; achenium ovoid, triangular.

New Mexico (C. Wright, No. 1947); Mexico (F. Müller, without a number).

†† Spikelets several (4 to 12) flowered.

66. *C. filiculmis*, Vahl. Northumberland Co., Canada (Macoun), to Wisconsin and southward to Florida (Curtiss, No. 3036) and Texas. Varies into very slender forms with small, single heads.

67. *C. Grayii*, Torrey. (*C. setifolius*, Torrey MS., and Clarke, l. c., xxi., p. 198.) Sandy plains along the Atlantic coast, Massachusetts to Florida. *C. ovularis*, var. *tenellus*, Torrey, Ann. Lyc., iii., p. 279, is a young form of this.

68. *C. Baldwinii*, Torrey. North Carolina and Florida, (Curtiss, No. 3025) westward to Texas (E. Hall, No. 687; E. Palmer (Flor. S. W. Texas, No. 1332); also in ballast at Camden (Parker.)

69. *C. Lancastriensis*, Porter. Trenton, N. J.; Safe Harbor, Penn., (Porter) to Alabama.

70. *C. fuligineus*, Chapm. Key West (Chapman; Garber.)

* * *Umbel compound.*

71. *C. Californicus*, Watson. (*C. speciosus*, Torrey, Bot. Mex. Bound. Survey.) California (Fitch, in Torrey Herb.)

72. *C. Pringlei*, Britton. Catalina Mountains, southern Arizona (Pringle.)

73. *C. ligularis*, L. (Not of Chapm., S. Flora, p. 507.) Southern Florida (Palmer, 1874, No. 532; Curtiss, N. A. Plants, No. 3046); also in Mexico, the West Indies, South America and tropical Africa and Australia.

Some Californian Polypetalæ.

By E. L. GREENE.

DENDROMECON FLEXILE.—Six to ten feet high, tree-like, with numerous more or less drooping branches; leaves ovate-oblong to elliptical, obtuse, often mucronulate, 2 to 5 inches long, fleshy and glaucous, crowded on the branches, short-petioled, their margins smooth and revolute; corolla rather pale yellow, 2 inches in diameter, on a short pedicel; capsules stout, curved, 3 to 5 inches long; seed large, spherical, lightly scrobiculate, with a large amber colored caruncle.

A common large shrub of the island of Santa Cruz, very strikingly unlike either the original mainland species, or that of the neighboring island of Santa Rosa. The large, pallid, somewhat succulent leaves are so numerous as to weigh down the branches, and this gives the shrub a rather graceful appearance; when dry they are thinner and softer than in the other species. In their axils the leaf-buds appear as solid, pyramidal, thorn-like protuberances, another singular characteristic.

DENDROMECON HARFORDII, Kellogg. This low shrub of Santa Rosa Island I have not seen growing. It is more like *D. rigidum* than the new one above characterized; but its very broad, entire leaves and short-peduncled flowers, short, stout branches and low, spreading habit, doubtless entitle it to the rank of a named variety, at least; and most probably it will eventually prove itself a good species.

ESCHSCHOLTZIA RAMOSA.—Annual, a foot high, stoutish, glabrous and very glaucous; stem simple at base, but above compactly branching; leaf-segments numerous, strongly divergent, or even divaricate; corolla a half inch or more in diameter, light greenish yellow; torus cylindrical, with no rim, but an erect, double margin; pod 3 inches long, stout and straight; seed globular, reticulated. *E. elegans*, var. *ramosa*, Greene, Bull. Cal. Acad. i., 182.

A strictly insular species, first found by the writer on Guadalupe, then on San Clemente, by Mr. W. S. Lyon, and lastly, this year on a small rocky islet occupied by sea birds, very close to the northern shore of Santa Cruz. This exceedingly well marked *Eschscholtzia* differs from all others in its compact, tree-like habit. All the rest, except *E. elegans*, have a loose, straggling mode of growth, branching from the very ground, with scarcely any part of the plant erect. *E. elegans*, to which I at first referred it as a variety, has different foliage, large deep yellow flowers, and smaller, curved pods, besides elongated and smoother seeds. It lacks, moreover, that singular dendroid compactness which is characteristic, as I have said, of the present plant alone, of all the genus.

PLATYSTIGMA DENTICULATUM. (*Meconella denticulata*, Greene, Bull. Cal. Acad. ii., 59.)

Field studies of the past season have brought to light facts in abundance to show that it is of little importance in our Papaveraceæ, whether filaments be flat or filiform. The same species will sometimes be found to vary greatly in this respect; and we have even *Platystigma* with filaments as broad and flat as they are ever found in *Platystemon* itself. *Meconella* has, therefore, nothing but its twisted capsules to recommend it for generic rank; and the Benthamian view of the limits of *Platystigma*, adopted by Mr. Watson in the Botany of California, is probably the more correct.

THYSANOCARPUS CONCHULIFERUS.—Glabrous, 3–7 inches high, with many divergent branches; leaves linear, the lower cleft into narrow segments, the cauline auricled at base; racemes short and rather close; pods a line or more in length, cymbiform, the conduplicate margin sinuately parted into spatulate divisions, or the latter coherent above, leaving narrowly oblong perforations; style equalling the margin of the pod and commonly coherent with it; pedicels nearly divaricate or quite straight, twice as long as the pods; flowers not seen.

Common on mossy shelves and crevices of the high rocky summits and northward slopes of Santa Cruz Island. A most interesting new species, very remarkable in the character of its fruit; showing how nearly our American *Thysanocarpus* can approach the Asiatic genus *Tauscheria* and yet remain a perfectly valid genus, the very dissimilar *Athysanus* being excluded.

ERYSIMUM INSULARE.—Shrubby, diffuse, a foot high, forming a dense tuft of from 2 to 6 feet broad, cinereous with a minute appressed pubescence, or glabrate; leaves narrowly linear, canaliculate, entire, rather rigid, recurved at apex, crowded upon the numerous woody branches; racemes short and dense, on short peduncles, or almost sessile; corolla yellow, a half inch broad; siliques quadrangular, 2 inches long, 1½ to 2 lines thick, beaked with a stout style.

Sandy slopes above Cuyler's Harbor, Island of San Miguel. A very remarkable plant, apparently related to certain Old World species, and most unlike any other American *Erysimum*. It is a broad, matted, evergreen shrub, the dead foliage of one or two preceding seasons firmly persistent still, on all the branchlets. Our specimens are mostly in leaf only, the flowering season having been perhaps six months past. One specimen was found partly in flower, and with a few clusters of well matured pods which had not yet shed their seeds.

A New Genus of Grasses.

BY DR. GEO. VASEY.

(PLATE LX.)

Orcuttia.—Tribe FESTUCEÆ, Sub-tribe SESLERIEÆ. Panicle simple; spikelets sessile, alternate, many flowered, compressed, upper ones crowded; empty and flowering glumes much alike, green and thickish, broad, 3 to 5-lobed, unawned, strongly many nerved; palet equaling its glume, hyaline, narnow, green on the strongly angled keels; anthers 3, styles 2, filaments and styles at length projecting beyond the flower.

O. CALIFORNICA.—Plant dwarf, 2 to 4 inches high, annual; growing in small clusters of 10 to 20 or more culms from one root; culms variable in length in the same cluster, generally producing some small flowering branches from the lower joints; leaves 2 or 3, the sheaths open and inflated, striate; ligule obsolete; blade rather rigid, about 1 inch long, acuminate; leaves and sheaths sparsely pubescent; panicle about 1 inch long, simple, usually of 4 to 6 alternate sessile spikelets, the lower 2 or 3 rather distant, the upper ones crowded; spikelets 5 to 10 flowered, empty glumes sparsely pubescent, broad, about 2 lines long, scarious-margined, mostly 3 lobed, the 2 outer lobes longer, the lobes each three-nerved; flowering glumes a little exceeding 2 lines long, with 5 nearly equal, acute lobes, each lobe three-nerved; palet as long as its glume, hyaline, narrow, strongly keeled, dentate at apex.

Sometimes several spikelets are clustered together at the apex of the culm, with only one pair of empty glumes for all. A dwarf grass collected near San Quentin Bay, Lower California, by Mr. C. R. Orcutt, an ardent young naturalist of San Diego, Cal., for whom the genus is named.